

¹ JNKVV. REGIONAL RESEARCH,
KHANDWA-450 001 (M.P.).

² DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY,
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, JABALPUR (M.P.),
July 2, 1986.

R. N. GANGULI ¹
E. JAYALAXMI ²
S. S. SHAW ¹

REFERENCE

JAKHMOLA, S. S. (1984): Niger grain fly, *D. sororeula* (Wied.), a serious pest of niger in central India. *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 80(2): 439-440.

36. COMMENTS ON THE PAPER "HOST PLANTS OF THE FRUIT FLIES (DIPTERA: TEPHRITIDAE) OF THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT, EXCLUSIVE OF THE SUBFAMILY DACINAE" BY MOHAMMAD ZAKA-UR-RAB

The paper by Zaka-Ur-Rab (1984) contains some inaccuracies which are pointed out here.

The last sentence in the first paragraph under Introduction states: "Another closely related example is that of *Rioxa modestum* (Fabr.) which was recorded by Bezzi (1913)". But in the 1913 publication, Bezzi has shifted the species from the genus *Rioxa* and brought it under the genus *Diarrhagma*; since then the valid name is *Diarrhagma modestum* (Fabricius) and not *Rioxa modestum* (Fabr.).

In the second paragraph it is stated: "In the Indian sub-continent the Tephritidae are represented by 60 genera and 138 species...". Instead, it should have been 86 genera and 310 species (Kapoor *et al.* 1980).

In the third paragraph it has been mentioned that out of 102 species comprising this group, host plants of only 21 species are known with any degree of certainty. But for 33 species host plant records have been given with certainty and many more vaguely like in Cucur-

bitae and Compositae (Asteraceae) plant families in the book by Kapoor *et al.* (1980).

In the main text of the paper, nomenclatural citation of many has been erroneously given or obsolete names have been used. *Chelyophora ceratitina* (Bezzi) should have been treated as *Acroceratitis ceratitina* (Bezzi), *Chelyophora striata* (Froggatt) as *Acroceratitis ceratitina* (Froggatt), *Rhacochlaena cassiae* Munro as *Euphranta (Staurella) cassiae* (Munro), *Stylia sororcula* (Wied.) as *Dioxyna sororcula* (Wiedemann) and *Tephritis tribulicola* Senior-White as *Orellia tribulicola* (Senior-White).

Under the subfamily Tephritinae, *Centaurea americana* Nutt has been treated as a Tephritid with a mention "This also happens to be the first report of this fruit fly from Kashmir", whereas *Centaurea americana* Nutt has been recorded in the same paper as a cultivated host plant of *Craspedoxantha octopunctata* Bezzi.

EASTERN REGIONAL STATION,
ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,
RISA COLONY, SHILLONG 793 003,
November 7, 1984.

C. RADHAKRISHNAN

REFERENCES

- HARDY, D. E. (1973): The Fruit Flies (Tephritidae: Diptera) of Thailand and bordering countries. *Pacif. Ins. Monogr.* 31: 1-353.
- KAPOOR, V. C., HARDY, D. E., AGARWAL, M. L. & GREWAL, J. S. (1980): Fruit Fly (Diptera: Tephritidae) systematics of the Indian subcontinent. Export India Publications, Jullundur.
- ZAKA-UR-RAB (1984): Host plants of the fruit flies (Diptera Tephritidae) of the Indian subcontinent, exclusive of the subfamily Dacinae. *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 81(1): 99-104.

37. ON THE TAXONOMIC STATUS OF *GELASIMUS ACUTUS* STIMPSON (DECAPODA: OCYPODIDAE) PRESENT IN THE NATIONAL COLLECTION OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA, CALCUTTA

(With a text-figure)

While surveying the intertidal macrofauna of the mangrove-fringed estuarine belt of the Sunderbans, India, four species of ocypodid crabs of the genus *Uca* were collected. Among them, the most abundant and widely distributed forms were determined as *Uca* (*Deltuca*) *rosea* (Tweedie). Alcock (1900) recorded *Gelasimus acutus* Stimpson from India and stated clearly that "in the Indian Museum are 92 specimens, chiefly from the Sunderbans and Mergui, but also from Karachi and the Andamans". On examination of the material deposited in the National Collection of the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta as *G. acutus* Stimpson, it appears that all of them are *U. (Deltuca) rosea* (Tweedie).

TAXONOMY

Uca (*Deltuca*) *rosea* (Tweedie)

1900. *Gelasimus acutus*, Alcock, *J. Asiat. Soc. Bengal*, 69: 360-361.
1932. *Uca manii*, Pearse, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 34(3): 292.
1936. *Uca manii*, Pearse, *Scient. Mon.*, N.Y., 42: 353.
1937. *Gelasimus manii*, Chopra & Das, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 39: 422.

Material studied: Material present in the National collection of the Zoological Survey of

India, Calcutta and the fresh lot recently collected from the Sunderbans, India.

Diagnosis: Carapace with fronto-orbital margin strongly oblique, antero-lateral carapace margin absent, antero-lateral angle acute and produced (Fig. 1A); much enlarged meri of ambulatories, tip of the large chela forceps-like, two grooves, dorsal and sub-dorsal, covering almost entire length of major dactyl (Fig. 1B); gonopod with broad anterior and posterior flanges, inner process broad and well developed (Fig. 1C).

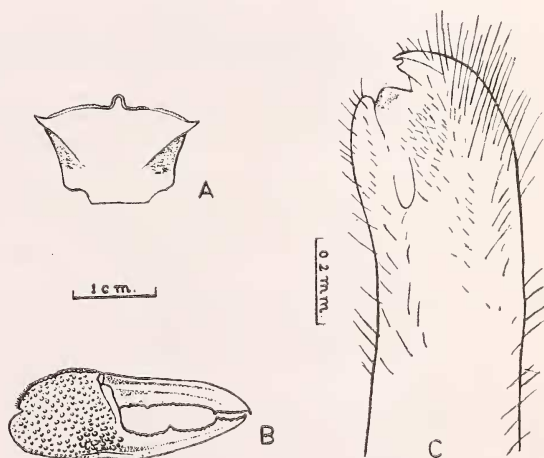


Fig. 1. *Uca* (*Deltuca*) *rosea*: A. Dorsal surface of the carapace of a mature male; B. Dorsal surface of major cheliped; ;C. Gonopod tip (right).